

Approved by Decision # 13/45 of Central Election Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated on July 4, 2005, Appendices and amendments were made by Decisions # [9/46](#) dated on April 22, 2010 and # 10/86-1 dated on May 25, 2015.

INSTRUCTION

on the rules for collection and submission of voters' signatures to the Constituency Election Commission in support of the verified candidate to deputy in Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The rules for collection and submission of voters' signatures to the Constituency Election Commission (Con.EC) in support of the verified candidate to deputy (hereinafter referred to as - candidate) in Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall be regulated by Articles 56-58, 147 of the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan and by the Instruction.

1. Collection of voters' signatures in support of the candidate during Elections to the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan

1.1. Collection of voters' signatures in support of candidates nominated by political parties or bloc of political parties, voters' initiative groups or on their own initiatives shall commence after the relevant election commission provides candidates or their authorized representatives with the decision verifying the nomination of the candidate.

1.2. At least 450 signatures shall be collected in support of the candidate within the territory of the constituency the candidate has been nominated for.

1.3. Legal entities are prohibited to participate in the collection of signatures notwithstanding type of property of state bodies, municipalities. To force voters to sign, prevent them from signing or to award them for this during the process of signature collection shall be prohibited. If the relevant court ratifies violation of this prohibition, then it can be a ground for the consideration of the collected signatures invalid and refusal from the registration of the candidate.

1.4. Each citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan with active suffrage shall have the right to sign on the signature sheet in support of the candidate to deputy. The

voter can sign in support of several candidates nominated within the territory of the constituency settled by him/her.

1.5. A citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan aged 18 with active suffrage can collect voters' signatures. The candidate, political party or bloc of the political party can sign an agreement on the collection of signatures with the person collecting signatures. The payment for this work shall be paid only by the election fund of the candidate, political party or blocs of political parties.

1.6. The voter shall indicate his/her surname, name, patronymic, date of birth, address of residence, serial number of ID card or its substitute document, date of issue and date of signature in the signature sheet. The person collecting signatures is allowed to fill the information on the voter in place of him/her only upon the voter's consent (excluding the signature). Only the voter shall have the right to sign. The above-mentioned information shall be included in handwriting and it shall be guaranteed to not disseminate the information.

1.7. The list of the voters who have put signature in support of the candidate to deputy has been determined by the Central Election Commission.

1.8. All information about the voter on signature sheet shall be indicated in relevant columns.

1.9. Signatures can be collected in educational institutions, residential areas, as well as, in other places where election campaign is not prohibited to conduct).

1.10. To sign in support of the candidate shall be voluntary. To obstruct the voter to exercise this right by any means (through misleading, forcing voters to sign or not to sign by physical or psychological aggression, or awarding them in any form for this) shall be prohibited and these actions shall be subjected to liability implied by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

1.11. If the candidate has been nominated on own initiative and by the initiative group, the signature sheet shall be signed by the person collecting signatures and the candidate after the collection of signatures. Before signing the signature sheet, the person collecting signatures shall indicate his/her surname, name and patronymic, serial number of ID card or its substitute document and date of issue in signature sheet.

1.12. If the candidate has been nominated by political parties, blocs of political parties, the signature sheet shall be signed by the candidate, the person collecting signatures and authorized representatives of political parties or blocs of political parties after the collection of signatures. Before signing, the person collecting signatures shall indicate his/her surname, name, serial number of ID card or its substitute document, date of issue in the signature sheet and the

relevant authorized representative shall indicate his/her surname, name, patronymic and date of signature.

1.13. Initiators who nominate candidates, authorized representatives of the candidate or political party, political party blocs shall count voters' signatures collected in support of the nominated candidate, compile and sign a final protocol on collection of voters' signatures (Appendix #1 made to Instruction).

1.14. Signature sheets submitted to the Con.EC shall be enumerated and made into pages in the form of a folder.

2. Submission of election documents for the registration of a candidate to deputy

2.1. The candidate or the authorized representative of the candidate, political parties and blocs of political parties shall submit the following election documents for the candidate registration to the Con.EC at most 50 days and at least 30 days till 18.00 p.m. prior to the voting day:

2.1.1. Signature sheets containing voters' signatures collected in support of the candidate;

2.1.2. 2 copies of the final protocol on the results of the collection of voters' signatures attached to the Instruction;

2.1.3. Notification on changes made to the information about the candidate in candidate's application on commitment (Articles 53.3 and 54.8);

2.1.4 Information on the amount and source of candidate's income for a year after the appointment of elections;

2.1.5. Notification on annual sum of these incomes by the organizations which have provided the information on the income;

2.1.6. Property information of the candidate compiled in conformity with Appendix # 5 made to the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

2.1.7. Candidate's preliminary financial report including the information on the funds spent for the organization of collecting voters' signatures.

2.2. Removed.

2.3. Con.ECs receive signature sheets during the period implied by the Election Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan since 9.00 a.m. till 18.00 p.m. Signature sheets submitted after the period defined by legislation do not have the same

legal effect with the signature sheets submitted within the period defined by legislation. The Con.EC shall register this case officially by its decision.

2.4. When receiving election documents, the Con.EC shall verify each folder containing signature sheets with stamp, check the compatibility of the number of the submitted signature sheets with the protocol on the result of signature collection, also shall submit a written notification on the receipt of documents upon recording the number of the signature sheets and signatures included in signature sheets (Appendix # 2 made to instruction). The reference shall be stamped by the Con.EC upon signing it by the Con.EC chairman and one of the members, also by the person who submits the documents. A copy of the reference shall be submitted to the person who submits the election documents.